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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [OPDC](#) [AU](#) [IZ](#)
SUBJECT: AUSTRIA REQUESTS CLARIFICATION OF BAGHDAD RAID ON
VIENNA NGO

11. (SBU) On February 26, Peter Launsky, Head of the Austrian MFA's Citizen Services Division passed DCM an Aide Memoire requesting USG clarification regarding an alleged raid by U.S. Armed Forces on the Baghdad offices of the Vienna-based NGO "Irakisches Hilfswerk in Oesterreich" February 18. According to the Aide Memoire, the raid took place in a multi-story building in the Mansur district of Baghdad and also targeted other NGOs with offices in the building. Irakisches Hilfswerk claims that the raid resulted in considerable damage and the "disappearance of \$7,000 from the premises." The NGO apparently also conveyed its concern about the safety of its staff.

12. (U) Action requested: Post is faxing a copy of the Aide Memoire to EUR/AGS. We appreciate Washington guidance on a response.
McCaw